Title	Cover, Forward, Table of Contents
Author(s)	
Citation	Proceedings on the 4th SEASTAR2000 Workshop (2003)
Issue Date	2003
URL	http://hdl.handle.net/2433/44119
Right	
Type	Conference Paper
Textversion	publisher

Proceedings on the 4th SEASTAR2000 Workshop

December 11-13, 2003
Bangkok, Thailand

SEASTAR2000

Edited by Nobuaki Arai

Organized by
Graduate School of Informatics, Kyoto University
Fisheries Laboratory of Kinki University
JSPS Bangkok Liaison Office
Informatics Research Center for Development of Knowledge Society Infrastructure

FORWARD

On behalf of the SEASTAR2000 4th Workshop, I would like to introduce the background of the development of research and conservation of sea turtles in ASEAN which has started since 2000. In 2000, we had the first international workshop in Kyoto, Japan to discuss the marine animal biology and conservation. The main scientific object focused on how to avoid the incidental catch of sea turtles and the other endangered marine animals from fishing gears such as shrimp trawls, gill nets and longlines. As the collaborative research has been carried out between Thai and Japanese scientists, we have discussed the migration routes of adult female nesting behavior, and genetic difference of sea turtles in Thailand, which have been extended to green, olive ridley and hawksbill. In addition, the biology of dugong has been discussed. We compared seasonal spatial shift of fishing grounds and migration routes of adult female turtles. Then, we found out that the incidental catch of sea turtles due to fishing gears was very few in the Gulf of Thailand. After the workshop, we realized that it was necessary to expand the collaborative research areas among several countries along the migration routes based on the results which indicated that the post nesting turtles in the Gulf of Thailand returned to the Sulu Sea, Java Sea and South China Sea beyond the Thai waters. In the Andaman Sea, they return from the Similan Islands to the Andaman Islands. There are many countries along the migration routes of turtles.

From 2001, the collaborative research has been carried out among Japan, Malaysia and Thailand to find similarity of migration behavior along the Malay Peninsula. We have found out the similar migration pattern between Malaysia and Thailand population from the nesting beach through the feeding ground. Scientists of the other Asian countries have started to show their interest in this information. In 2002, the number of SEASTAR participants increased, they came from many Asian countries such as India, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Malaysia, Negara Brunei Darussalam, the Philippines and Japan. The main objectives are 1) to carry out the research of migration routes of young turtles, new hatchlings, and adult males, 2) to investigate and find out the correlation between migration routes and environmental factors in feeding areas, such as seagrass bed density, 3) to examine genetic difference of local population in different feeding grounds, 4) to develop conservation plans of endangered aquatic animals. Recently, it seems to be necessary to discuss aquatic endangered species other than sea turtles. The species include dugongs, Mekong giant catfish and other useful fish resources.

It is deeply meaningful to publish the Proceedings on the 4th SEASTAR2000 Workshop.

I hope the newest knowledge will make a great contribution to conservation of endangered marine animals.

Wataru Sakamoto
Director of SEASTAR2000
Emeritus Professor of Kyoto University
Professor of Kinki University

CONTENT